

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented) A method for treating diabetes or a complication thereof comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of one of the following compounds

- 2-benzylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-methylphenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-chlorophenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-fluorophenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-methoxyphenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-phenylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-carboxymethylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-cyclohexylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(2'-naphthylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- ethyl 2-phenylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
- ethyl 2-(4'-fluorophenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
- ethyl 2-(4'-chlorophenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
- ethyl 2-(4'-methylphenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
- ethyl 2-(4'-methoxyphenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
- ethyl 2-(2'-naphthylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
- ethyl 2-cyclohexylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
- ethyl 2-benzylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
- 2-phenylthio-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-fluorophenylthio)-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-chlorophenylthio)-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-methylphenylthio)-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-methoxyphenylthio)-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(2'-naphthylthio)-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;

- 2-cyclohexylthio-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-benzylthio-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-phenylthio-4-(4'-chlorophenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-fluorophenylthio)-4-(4'-chlorophenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-methylphenylthio)-4-(4'-chlorophenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-methoxyphenylthio)-4-(4'-chlorophenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid; or
- 2-(2'-naphthylthio)-4-(4'-chlorophenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;

or a geometrical or optical isomer thereof,

or a tautomeric form thereof;

or a solvate or hydrate thereof,

or a salt thereof with a pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base.

17-26. (Cancelled)

27. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 16, wherein the risk of hypoglycaemia is reduced.

28. (Previously Presented) A method according to Claim 16, wherein non-insulin-dependent diabetes or a complication thereof is treated.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 16, wherein the compound administered is capable of the inhibition of kynurenine 3-hydroxylase.

31. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 16, wherein the compound administered is capable of the inhibition of kynurenine 3-hydroxylase in an *in vitro* test.

32. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 16, wherein diabetes is treated.

33. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 16, wherein a

complication of diabetes is treated.

34. (Currently Amended) A compound, which is
- 2-benzylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-(4'-methylphenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-(4'-chlorophenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-(4'-fluorophenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-(4'-methoxyphenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-phenylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-carboxymethylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-cyclohexylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-(2'-naphthylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - ethyl 2-phenylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
 - ethyl 2-(4'-fluorophenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
 - ethyl 2-(4'-chlorophenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
 - ethyl 2-(4'-methylphenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
 - ethyl 2-(4'-methoxyphenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
 - ethyl 2-(2'-naphthylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
 - ethyl 2-cyclohexylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
 - ethyl 2-benzylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
 - 2-phenylthio-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-(4'-fluorophenylthio)-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-(4'-chlorophenylthio)-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-(4'-methylphenylthio)-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-(4'-methoxyphenylthio)-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-(2'-naphthylthio)-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-cyclohexylthio-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-benzylthio-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-phenylthio-4-(4'-chlorophenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-(4'-fluorophenylthio)-4-(4'-chlorophenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-(4'-methylphenylthio)-4-(4'-chlorophenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-(4'-methoxyphenylthio)-4-(4'-chlorophenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid; or

• 2-(2'-naphthylthio)-4-(4'-chlorophenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
or a geometrical or optical isomer thereof,
or a tautomeric form thereof;
or a solvate or hydrate thereof, or
or a salt thereof with a pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base,
~~or a pharmaceutically acceptable prodrug thereof.~~

35. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 16, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of one of the following compounds

- 2-benzylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-methylphenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-chlorophenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-fluorophenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-methoxyphenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-phenylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-carboxymethylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-cyclohexylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(2'-naphthylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- ethyl 2-phenylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
- ethyl 2-(4'-fluorophenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
- ethyl 2-(4'-chlorophenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
- ethyl 2-(4'-methylphenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
- ethyl 2-(4'-methoxyphenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
- ethyl 2-(2'-naphthylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
- ethyl 2-cyclohexylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
- ethyl 2-benzylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
- 2-phenylthio-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-fluorophenylthio)-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-chlorophenylthio)-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-methylphenylthio)-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-methoxyphenylthio)-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;

- 2-(2'-naphthylthio)-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-cyclohexylthio-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-benzylthio-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-phenylthio-4-(4'-chlorophenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-fluorophenylthio)-4-(4'-chlorophenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-methylphenylthio)-4-(4'-chlorophenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-methoxyphenylthio)-4-(4'-chlorophenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid; or
- 2-(2'-naphthylthio)-4-(4'-chlorophenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;

or a salt thereof with a pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base.

36. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 16 34, wherein the risk of hypoglycaemia is reduced.

37. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 16 34, wherein non-insulin-dependent diabetes or a complication thereof is treated.

38. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 16 34, wherein diabetes is treated.

39. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 16 34, wherein a complication of diabetes is treated.

40-43. (Cancelled)

44. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 16 34, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of one of the following compounds

- 2-benzylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-methylphenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-chlorophenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-fluorophenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-(4'-methoxyphenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- 2-phenylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;

- 2-(2'-naphthylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - ethyl 2-phenylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
 - ethyl 2-(4'-fluorophenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
 - ethyl 2-(4'-chlorophenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
 - ethyl 2-(4'-methylphenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
 - ethyl 2-(4'-methoxyphenylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
 - ethyl 2-(2'-naphthylthio)-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
 - ethyl 2-benzylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate;
 - 2-phenylthio-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-(4'-fluorophenylthio)-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-(4'-chlorophenylthio)-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-(4'-methylphenylthio)-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-(4'-methoxyphenylthio)-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-(2'-naphthylthio)-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-benzylthio-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-phenylthio-4-(4'-chlorophenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-(4'-fluorophenylthio)-4-(4'-chlorophenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-(4'-methylphenylthio)-4-(4'-chlorophenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
 - 2-(4'-methoxyphenylthio)-4-(4'-chlorophenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid; or
 - 2-(2'-naphthylthio)-4-(4'-chlorophenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- or a salt thereof with a pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base.

45. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 16 34, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of one of the following compounds

- 2-carboxymethylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- or a salt thereof with a pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base.

46. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 16 34, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of one of the following compounds

- 2-cyclohexylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoic acid;
- ethyl 2-cyclohexylthio-4-phenyl-4-oxobutanoate; or

- 2-cyclohexylthio-4-(4'-methoxyphenyl)-4-oxobutanoic acid;
or a salt thereof with a pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base.